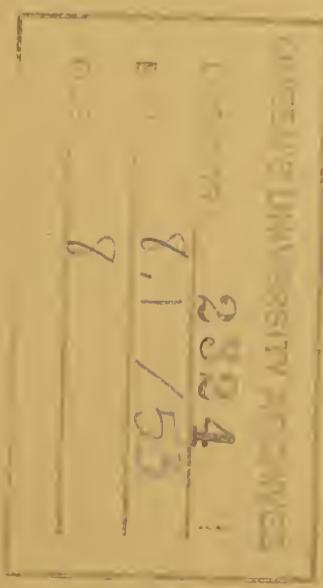


H. C. Bowditch Papers

Leverett





524 Alester Street,
Ottawa 7, Ontario.
Jan. 22nd 1967.

Dear Dr. Burleigh,

For the past several years, my husband and I have been "bitten by the genealogy bug" and are engaged in a friendly rivalry as we search out our respective ancestors.

We have enjoyed fairly creditable success to date having discovered approximately 1800 of our direct ancestors. We are fortunate living in Ottawa where we have access to the Public Archives of Canada. However even their resources are rather meagre when it comes to Upper Canada in the period before 1851.

Several months ago I was visiting Kingston, my home town, and I chatted by telephone with the Misses Fairfield of Fairfield House about the Babcock-Leeman branch of my family tree who came from the Camden East area. Miss Fairfield recommended your name as one well-versed on the history of Lennox-Addington County and suggested you might be able to help me in my search into these families.

My great-grandfather John Leeman (1845-1920) was the son of James Leeman (1815-1900) and Mathilda Babcock (1821-1905)

The 1851 and 1861 Censuses of Upper Canada show the family of James Leeman as follows:

	1851 Census Camden East	1861 Census Bedford Twp.
James Leeman	36	44
Mathilda "	30	39
Ira A "	10	17
John B "	8	16
Stuart "	6	14
Jacob D "	3	12
James W "	-	10
Harriet "	-	6
Mary Anne "	-	3
Barnard "	-	36

I have not been able to find any record of the marriage of James Leeman and Mathilda Babcock which probably took place in the Camden East-Napanee area around 1840. James and Mathilda were listed as being Wesleyan Methodists. Would you have any information as to where the parish registers for this area might be located?



Also, I have no ~~fix~~ definite information as to the parents of either James Leeman or Mathilda Babcock.

The 1851 Census lists a Solomon Lamon, 53 years old, with wife Mary, aged 52 and son Ira. You'll note that James Leeman also called his oldest son Ira. Could it be that Solomon is the father of James?

The 1851 Census also lists a Jacob Babcock, aged 53, and wife Mary aged 52 and daughter Harriett. Again James and Mathilda Leeman called some of their children Jacob, Mary Anne and Harriet. Is it possible that Jacob and Mary Babcock were Mathilda's parents?

In the Marriage Registers of St John's Church Ernestown (Ontario Hist. Society Collections) is recorded the marriage of a Jacob Babcock(born 1798) to Mary Feeble ~~Feeble~~ (born 1799) Ernestown on 18 Oct 1818. This could be the Jacob and Mary mentioned in the 1851 Census as noted above. The name "Feeble" seems to be an error in copying, as I have not been able to find any further reference to that surname in any other documents of the area such as land petitions etc. About the closest I have beenable to come to that name is "Teeple".

A great-aunt of mine who is still living in Kingston has the impression that Mathilda Babcock's mother's name was O'Neil. She recalls a family story whereby two of her great-grandmothers had the same name although they were not related. Have you any record of a Babcock married to an O'Neil or any record of O'Neils in that area?

I am very sorry that I have written such a long and involved letter. Also I must apologize for the many typing errors; I am just learning to type, but at that it is far more legible than my hand-writing.

I would appreciate greatly any help or advice you might be able to give me as to where I might be able to find any further sources of information to assist me in tracing my Babcock-Leeman ancestors.

I thank you in advance for your assistance and enclose a self-addressed envelope for convenience of your reply.

Sincerely,

(Mrs) Anita Codree

L~ Babcock + Anna Telfer, ?? = 16 June 1810

